



**S/N 08/991,143**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Bianca M. Conti-Fine

Examiner: Patrick J. Nolan

Serial No.: 08/991,143

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filed: December 16, 1997

Docket: 600.423US1

Title: METHODS TO TREAT UNDESIRABLE IMMUNE RESPONSES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box CPA  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the final Office Action mailed November 5, 1999 and the Advisory Action mailed May 24, 2000. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims**

Please cancel claim 40.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method of preventing or inhibiting an indication or disease associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is specific for a particular endogenous antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a human [mammal] afflicted with, or at risk of, the indication or disease a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, a variant thereof or a combination thereof, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to alter the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the endogenous antigen.
2. (Twice amended) A method of suppressing, tolerizing or inhibiting the priming or activity of CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells which are associated with antibody production [preventing or inhibiting an indication or disease associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody